



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

October 12, 2010

Great Expectations!

Mike King

Life is somewhat characterized by *Charles Dickens* in his classic work, *Great Expec-tations*. Written in parts between Dec. 1860 and Aug. 1861, and published over a period of time. He mesmerized minds by this heart-wrenching novel about a young orphan boy named Pip. All of his life he had been made to feel inferior and met with failure and unfulfilled dreams. He was to be the recipient of 500 pounds per year from a benefactor which was seized by the Crown because of the benefactor being a convict. He sought the heart of Estella for years but she was only taunting him because of the prompting by Miss Havisham who was jilted by a man. He then chose to marry Bidly only to find that she had married Joe. It seems as if many or most of his “great expectations” ended in disappointment.

The world looked for something to fulfill needs prior to and during the days of the Roman Empire. Promises were given by the prophets that there would be an Immanuel (God with us), a deliverer who would bless the world. Their hopes, dreams and longings were all fulfilled in Jesus. The world could give a sigh of relief when they could announce, “Unto us a child is born!”

Because of Him, life takes on meaning and purpose. Passages warm our hearts like, “In him was life” (Jn. 1:4), He was the “bread of life” (Jn. 6:35), and in Him we shall have “the light of life” (Jn. 8:12). His life and teachings serve as a prism through which we can look that gives a world that is filled with troubles and disappointments, meaning. Never has there been an expectation that holds as much promise and purpose as the advent of Christ into the world!



Once when I was a child, after playing hard roaming in the woods and climbing steep terrain, I sought refreshment from a neighbor’s back porch cistern. I pumped a large glass of water and gulped thirstily, consuming most of the content before taking a breath. My “great expectation” turned to repulsion when I realized that the cistern had been treated with Clorox to disinfect it. Not only did it not help, it made my thirst condition considerably worse! Jesus is referred to as a “living fountain” (Rev. 7: 17). David prophesied of Jesus as being the “fountain of life” (Ps. 36:9) and Jeremiah promised a “fountain of living waters” (Jer. 2:13).

Dear friend, it is proper for you to have “great expectations” without any fear of disappointment! Drink deeply from the well of life and expect complete refreshment not disappointment.

“ For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.”

Psalms 36: 9

HE FINALLY CAME...

By: George Curtis

He left the town where he was born
And moved into our town.
He was a member of the church
So we claimed him as our own.

The preacher went out to see him
The elders and members too.
“Yes, I’m coming to church
Soon as this moving is through.”

The moving days were soon behind
Still John did not appear;
The preacher called and called again
For a whole enduring year.

But brother John still “aimed” to come - -
He knew just what he was about;
He’d be in service soon
As his business was straightened out.

The years rolled by and the days flew past
As they have always done.
But still our brother never came
Where souls for Christ are won.

His children grew to manhood
They walked the ways of men - - -
Denied the glorious gospel
They lived their lives of sin.

Brother John, too, grew old and gray
With the passing of the years,
But still was coming to the Lord
When through with earthly cares.

The care of earth were too soon past
And then indeed he came;
He’d stayed away as long as he could
While he played life’s little game.

The church was filled with lovely flowers
His friends - - - they were all there - - -
They’d prayed so long that he would come,
Now this? - - - the answer to their prayer.

Poor brother John came down the aisle - - -
- - never knew what it was all about
Earth’s business still might be in the kinks
But brother John was STRAIGHTENED OUT!

AREA EVENTS

- **North MS Ladies Retreat** to be held at Tishomingo State Park, October 22&23. Check bulletin board for more details.
- **AREA-WIDE SINGING Oct. 17&Oct. 29th** at the West Main Youth Activities Center; 6th grade up.
- **Gospel Meeting @ N. Gatlin Street Church of Christ** in Okolona MS with Adam Miller as guest speaker. Evening services at 7:30pm

YOUTH NEWS

- This month’s Youth Devo will be held at the Wall’s campout, October 15th. Be sure to sign the list that is on the table in the foyer if you plan to attend and if you will be bringing a guest.
- The next Senior Bible Bowl will be Sunday, October 24th, at the Nettleton Church of Christ. The youth will leave following morning services and have lunch in Tupelo before the Bible Bowl.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October 27.....Mark Jennings
October 28.....Erin Wall
October 29.....Phil Young
October 31.....Steve Todd

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

October 13.....Olen & Teresa Clark
October 14.....Perrin & Jean Drummond
October 23.....J.L. & Betty Eaton
October 27.....Jason & Amy Jennings

OVERHEARD IN THE TREES

Said the robin to the sparrow
“I should really like to know
Why these anxious human beings
Rush around and worry so.”
Said the sparrow to the robin,
“Friend, I think it must be
That they have no heavenly Father
Such as cares for you and me.”

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Betty Eaton, is in room 343 step down unit of North MS Medical Center, and not doing well at this time.

Margaret Bailey, mother of Paige Young is in room 183 of North MS Medical Center. She is undergoing rehab at this time.

Claudette Pounders, mother of Brad Pounders , is at home recovering from back surgery.

Barbara Smithey, mother of Chris Smithey, is now at home and slowly improving.

Jean Drummond, will undergo oral surgery in the near future..

Corrine Hall, mother of Teresa Clark, fell and received a cut on her head. She was carried to the hospital, but is now back in the nursing home.

Continual Prayer List

Earnestine McKinney, Susan White, Betty Adams, Shane Crotts, Udell Wilson, Arkie Grimmett, Bill King, Donna Weeden, Sylvia Plunk, Terry Young

Shut-Ins

Jean Drummond, Lessie Bryant, Billy Joe Garner, Laura Mae Harris, Belle Cross, Pauline Smith, Raymond & Amy Vest

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Sue Collins, Shane Hutton, Corrine Hall, Eunice Mabry, Faye Owen , Anna Davis

Military List:

David Wilhite-Navy-Florida Barry Wilhite-Marine-Navy –Virginia, Jimmie Stutts-Air Force—California, Tiffany Erwin– Army-Camp Rooker, AL; Aaron Raines-Army, Afghanistan; Jamie Vansandt, Alaska; Michelle Montgomery, Fort Leonard, Missouri, Jim Vest-Afghanistan

SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to the family of J.A. Thornton, who passed from this life early Monday morning, October 11th. Visitation will be Wednesday from 4 to 7p.m. at McMillan Funeral Home in Booneville. Funeral services will be Thursday at 2p.m. at the Booneville Church of Christ.

THANK YOU NOTES

New Albany Church of Christ,

Once again, we are overwhelmed by the love and kindness you have shown our families. We are truly blessed to have you in our lives. Thank you so much for the wonderful meals you have provided this week. May the Lord continue to bless you.

In Christian Love, Ray & Kay Pack, Riley & Susie Nelson, Larry, Connie & Donald Montgomery, Andrew Nelson & Guyton Montgomery

Dear church family,

Thank you for all of your prayers, cards and concern for our family during the recent loss of Justin's grandmother and cousin. Both are greatly missed, but our church family has been a great comfort to all of our family during this difficult time. We also want to thank those who helped yesterday (Saturday) with our move to our new home. Words can not express our gratitude.

With Christian Love, Justin & Rebecca Dewberry

CAMP-OUT

The Fall Campout is planned for Friday night October 15th at the Wall's. Be sure to bring your lawn chair. You may begin arriving after 4pm and stay as long as you like. This month's Youth Devo will be held at the campout.

SINGING CLASS

We plan to begin a singing class Sunday evening October 17th at 5:00 pm in the Adult I classroom. The class will emphasize song leading skills but general music theory will be taught. Anyone interested in learning more about music/singing is welcome. We will meet on Sundays at 5:00pm except when early afternoon services are planned.

CHICKEN FEST

Thanks so much to Phil Young, Randy Wall and others who had a part in hosting and preparing for the this year's Chicken Fest. There were over a hundred men and boys who attended. They all enjoyed good food and fellowship.

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.org>

OUR RECORD

Sunday School	93
Sunday A.M	118
Sunday P.M.	85
Wednesday	N/A
Contribution	\$4,981.30
Budget	\$3,305.70

TO SERVE

Scripture	Dillon Clayton
A.M. Prayer ..	Richard Jennings
Closing Prayer ...	Matt Jennings
P.M. Prayer.....	Ray Kennedy
Closing.....	Roger Clayton
Wed. 10/20.....	Daniel Drummond
Wed. 10/20.....	Bill DePriest
Usher & Lock ...	Harold Russell
Greeters.....	B & A Pounders

PANTRY ITEM: Muffin mix

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....	9:30
Morning Worship	10:30
Evening Worship.....	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00

Elders

Richard Jennings	534-6671
Troy Robertson.....	534-3491

Deacons

Bill Botts	316-2422
Greg Clayton	252-9762
Roger Clayton	534-5240
Andy Clemmer	816-5887
Harold Russell.....	534-4648
Randy Wall.....	316-9255

Minister

Mike King	904-705-4206
Office.....	534-4649

WE THANK GOD

By: J. A. Thornton

We thank the Father for His love
Sent down from heaven above,
For Christ, His Son, who interceded - -
For filling all our temporal needs.

Grateful for all, both great and small
For life and health and all.
For loved ones kind and friends so true,
For all the old and all the new.

We thank thee for the sunshine and the rain
We thank thee for the harvest golden grain,
We thank thee for the life that thou didst give
And for thy watch and care that we might live.

Grateful that we are still a people free,
Though foe may come across the sea.
We read and tell the same old story
And give to God the praise and glory.

Help us to stand where Christ has stood
To hate the evil and love the good.
Be our God, Our All, and bless us still
To live in harmony with thy will.

Note: This poem was found in the November 28, 1971 issue of the Informer

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Volume 40

THE INFORMER (USPS 5581-500)
Church of Christ
511 Hwy. 15 South, P.O. Box 148
New Albany, Mississippi 38652
(662)534-4649

Periodical
Postage Paid
New Albany, MS

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
(Form 3579) to: The Informer, P.O. Box
148, New Albany, MS 38652